



ATTY DKT No: NC13962 (9015.017)
CUSTOMER ID No. 30973

PATENT APPLICATION
SERIAL No. 09/454,124

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following claims are pending and non-withdrawn and, while not being amended herein, are reproduced below for the convenience and efficiency of examination:

1. (Previously Amended) The method of indicating the quality of a received signal at a mobile phone, the received signal sent to the mobile phone by a remote transmitter, said method comprising the steps of:

detecting reception of the received a signal from the remote transmitter at the mobile phone,

inspecting said received signal for determining its quality, at least in terms of a percentage of acceptable,

providing an output correlated to the results of said inspecting step, and

providing a user discernible indication in response to said output provided during said operation of providing the output, the user discernible indication indicative of the quality of the received signal in terms of the percentage of acceptable.

2. (Previously Amended) The method in accordance with claim 1 in which said inspecting step includes the step of comparing said received signal with a predetermined threshold, and

said providing the output step includes the step of generating a first output whenever said comparing step has met said predetermined threshold and for otherwise generating a second output different from said first output, the second output indicative of the quality of the received signal in terms of the percentage of acceptable.

3. The method in accordance with claim 2 for use in conjunction with a digital transmission and receiving system wherein said inspecting step includes the step of determining the BER of said received signal over a sampling period.

4. The method in accordance with claim 3 which includes the step of ensuring that said received signal has failed to meet said threshold value for a predetermined time-out period before generating the said output indicative of such a failure.

5. (Previously Amended) The method in accordance with claim 1 wherein said providing the user discernible indication step includes the step of establishing a visual indicator for said user discernible indication.

6. (Previously Amended) The method of indicating the quality of a received signal at a mobile phone, the received signal sent to the mobile phone by a remote transmitter, said method comprising the steps of
detecting reception of the received signal from the remote transmitter at the mobile phone,
separating control signals from voice signals,
inspecting said received voice signal for determining its quality is at least either above or below a predetermined threshold, the predetermined threshold forming a boundary condition, and the voice signal, when of a quality less than the predetermined threshold, indicated in terms of a percentage of acceptable,
providing an output correlated to the results of said inspecting step, and
providing a user discernible indication in response to said output.

7. (Previously Amended) The method in accordance with claim 6 wherein said inspecting step includes the step of quantifying the amount, in terms of the percentage of acceptable, by which said voice signal fails to meet said predetermined threshold, and
said user discernible indication step includes the step of correlating the amount of said user discernible indication to the result of said quantifying step.

8. The method in accordance with claim 6 wherein said user discernible providing step includes the step of causing a visible display to pulsate.

9. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein the amount of said display pulsation is correlated to the amount, in terms of the percentage of acceptable, said received voice signal departs from said predetermined threshold level.

10. The method in accordance with claim 6 wherein said user discernible providing step includes the step of causing a user discernible audio signal indicating the voice signal quality.

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11. (Previously Amended) The method in accordance with claim 10 which includes the step of correlating the magnitude of said voice signal to the amount of departure of said voice signal from said predetermined threshold.

12. The method in accordance with claim 6 which includes the step of ensuring that the results of said inspecting step have remained over a preselected time-out period before generating the said user discernible indication.

13. (Previously Amended) Apparatus for indicating the quality of a received signal at a mobile phone, said apparatus comprising:

a signal receiving antenna on the mobile phone for receiving signals transmitted from a remote location,

a signal quality determining arrangement in said mobile phone coupled for inspecting said received signal in terms of a percentage of acceptable and providing an output signal indicative thereof, and

a user discernible indication generator operable in response to said output signal, said user discernible indication generator for generating an indication indicative of the quality of the received signal in terms of the percentage of acceptable.

D1 14. (Previously Amended) Apparatus in accordance with claim 13 in which said signal quality determining arrangement includes a comparator coupled for comparing said received signal with a predetermined threshold, said comparator generating a first output whenever said received signal has met said threshold and for otherwise generating a second output different from said first output, the second output indicative of the quality of the received signal in terms of the percentage of the acceptable.

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E1 15. (Previously Amended) The apparatus in accordance with claim 14 for use in conjunction with a digital transmission and receiving system which includes a BER measuring device operable during a selected sampling period.

16. (Cancelled)